

The Daily Edition

50¢

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Monday, February 27, 2017

Third person charged in the First Degree Murder of Billy Roberts

Sheriff Tim Guider announced the arrest of a third person in connection to the robbery and murder of Billy Roberts on February 18, 2017 at his home on Dutton Road in Lenoir City. Brittany Smith was picked up February 23, 2017 by Loudon County Sheriff's Office investigators and brought in for



Brittany Smith

(see Murder pg. 2)

Walmart shooting ruled a suicide

District Attorney General Russell Johnson predicated a case to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation into a situation on February 2, 2017 where officers responded to a call for a welfare check and arrived on a scene where the subject then committed suicide by gunshot. The subject on the suicide was Quentin Swicegood, a 58 year old male from Kingston Tennessee. After reviewing the results of the completed investigation and autopsy, the following is the report of the District Attorney General: On Thursday, February 2, 2017, 'welfare check' bulleting went out from Roane County E-11 for law enforcement to respond to the

see suicide pg. 7

Pills found on man already wanted for VOP



Michael Chastain

see wanted pg. 4

The Good News

by: Rev. Dr. Julius McCarter

Scripture: Matthew 17:1-9

It starts out innocently enough. A stroll up the mountain with Jesus. But then company comes. Jesus is joined by Moses and Elijah. What a sight that must have been! Moses, representing the law; Elijah, representing the prophets; and Jesus, representing the fulfillment of both. I'm sensing a theme

see TGN. pg. 5

'just a little meth and some needles'



(see meth pg. 4)

Christy McNeal



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Verse of the Day

The LORD will fulfill [his purpose] for me; your love, O LORD, endures forever — do not abandon the works of your hands. — Psalm 138:8

Obituaries

see inside **Wazzup**

You should be very careful what you say on Social Media, you are held accountable and might possibly

bring yourself some legal action.

Weather

Today: A few showers early with overcast skies later in the day. High 61F.

Tonight: Cloudy in the

evening with scattered thunderstorms developing after midnight. Low 49F.

Tuesday Scattered thunderstorms in the morning, then mainly cloudy during the afternoon with

(Continued on page 6)



Murder

questioning. Sheriff Guider stated, after a lengthy investigation in cooperation with the District Attorney's Office, Smith was taken into custody and charged with First Degree Murder, Especially Aggravated Burglary,

and Especially Aggravated Robbery.

Her bond on the Burglary and Robbery charges totals \$100,000 and a bond has not been set on the murder charge at this time.

Investigators allege Smith acted in concert with Robbie Lee Covington of Loudon

and James Albert Clapham of Sweetwater during the burglary, robbery and murder of Billy Roberts.

The investigation is ongoing and no other details are available at this time.

Brittany Smith, 28, Jim Hartsook Drive Lenoir City, was charged with First Degree Murder by Facilitate, Especially Aggravated Burglary, and Especially Aggravated Robbery.

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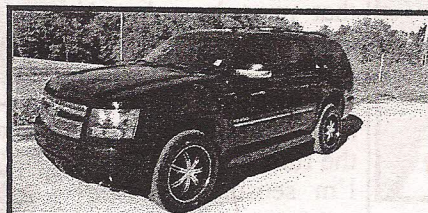
2009 Jeep Liberty Chrome pkg, 52k, PW, PL, V6, Tow pkg, Luggage Rack



2013 Nissan Altima Remote Start, PW, PL, Auto, 2.5, Only 96k



2014 Dodge Journey 33k, 3rd Row Seat, V6, Auto, A/C, Heat, Alloy Wheels



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Meth

Christy McNeal, 32, Brown West Drive Rockwood, was charged with Simple Possession.

Officer Williams, LPD, stopped a white

Honda on Park Street for having a windshield that was busted and obstructing the view of the driver from safely operating the vehicle.

While speaking with the driver of the vehi-

cle, the officer noticed the smell of burnt marijuana and observed the driver and passenger nervously shaking.

Because of the marijuana smell, the officer asked the driver for consent to search the

vehicle and he stated the officer could search the vehicle.

The driver along with the passenger, Ms. Christy McNeal were removed from the vehicle. Several purses were found to be in the passenger side of the vehicle. The officer showed Christy McNeal the purses and asked if they belonged to her and she stated they did. Officer then asked Ms. McNeal if he could search her belongings for anything illegal and she stated he could. She then stated she had syringes inside one of the purses and showed the officer where the syringes were at. Officer

did locate three syringes and a small plastic baggie containing a clear glass like substance believed to be methamphetamine. Christy McNeal did admit to possessing and using methamphetamine to ingest.

The Methamphetamine was sent to the TBI Crime lab for testing. Christy McNeal is charged with simple possession of a schedule II narcotic.

Wanted

Michael Chastain, 43, Elm Grove Street Loudon, was charged with Legend Drugs, Man/Sell/Del/Resale Sch. II, and Violation

see wanted ctd. pg. 5

good to know you™

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TGN

in the image of mountains in this week's readings. Moses' face on Mt. Sinai outwardly reflects God's glory. On this mountain, Jesus' face radi-

ates God's glory from within. His divine nature is revealed. Here once again on a mountain God shows up in a cloud that both terrifies and elicits worship. It is on a mountain that God's voice

gives authority to the Ten Commandments. It is on a mountain that God's voice gives authority to Jesus' words. "Listen to him", we are told.

We all have moun-

tain-top experiences, but we also experience life's valleys. Isn't it nice to know Jesus meets us in both places?

Prayer: Father, thank you for being a God of

not only mountains, but of valleys as well. Wherever we find ourselves, we thank you that you meet us where we are. Amen.

wanted ctd. from pg. 4

of Probation.

Agents with the 9th DTF and Officer's with the Loudon Police Department observed Michael Chastain walking on Grove Street in Loudon City.

Agents had prior knowledge that Mr. Chastain had an active VOP warrant out of Loudon County, TN. Officer's made contact with Chastain and placed him under arrest for the active warrant. While performing a search of Chastain's person a container with a couple baggies of with a crystal substance identified as crystal methamphetamine and weighing approximately 2.0 grams was located in his pants pocket. A search of Mr. Chastain's backpack produced a pill bottle full of white pills identified as Spironolactone Hydrochloride which can only be obtained by a valid prescription. The pills were in a pill bottle with the label torn off and Mr. Chastain stated he got the pills from a family member cause he was suppose to be taking them. Mr. Chastain was placed under arrest for the VOP warrant, Possession of Sch. II and Possession of a Prescription Drug without a Valid Prescription. These actions did happen in Loudon County, TN.

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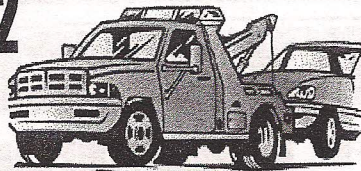
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Suicide

Walmart parking lot at 1102 North Gateway Avenue in Rockwood. The request for the welfare check came from Duie Swicegood, father of Quentin Swicegood. Duie Swicegood indicated to the dispatcher at E911 that he was in the Walmart parking lot beside his white Ford and stated that Quentin Swicegood was located in the parking lot inside a green Firebird; the E911 report goes on to identify the Quentin Swicegood car by tag number. The caller went on to state that Quentin was probably drunk and they were not sure, but believed him to have a gun. Duie Swicegood stated that Quentin was depressed and was threatening suicide or 'suicide by

cop'. Rockwood Police Department Detective Dewayne Gray and Patrol Officer Rick Thomas responded to Walmart parking lot and approached the Firebird occupied by Quentin Swicegood. In-car camera video from the RPD cruiser and body camera video from Officer Thomas show that Officer Thomas first approached the Firebird from the passenger side, then walked back around the back of the Firebird and approached the driver's side of the vehicle where Quentin Swicegood was located. Officer Thomas is seen and heard on the videos initially attempting to walk to Swicegood. Officer Thomas is heard on the video

asking Swicegood how he is doing. Officer Thomas then asks him to step out of the vehicle to which Swicegood stated "nope."

Officer Thomas then noticed Swicegood had a revolver in his possession. Officer Thomas initially reaches in through the open driver's side window with his right hand to push Swicegood away either in an attempt to get him to release the revolver and/or to put distance between himself and the car. Video shows Quentin Swicegood begin to lift up the gun with his right hand from his lap in the direction of the driver and driver's window where Officer Thomas is standing. Officer Thomas drew his service weapon, a Glock .40 caliber pistol as Swicegood raised his Judge .410 caliber revolver. Officer Thomas is heard, in response to Swicegood raising his gun shouting "do not reach for it, do not reach for it, put your hands up, do not aim that" Detective Gray is heard shouting "put both hands up" prior to any shots be-

ing fired. The officers on scene reported that both Officer Thomas and Swicegood fired a single shot.

Agents from the TBI processed the crime scene. TBI Agents located Officer Thomas' single .40 caliber round in the driver's side doorpost of Swicegood's vehicle, where it had been imbedded. TBI Agents reported it did not appear Officer Thomas' round made contact with Swicegood. RPD Officers on scene reported Swicegood shot himself in the right side of the head with a single .410 caliber round.

An autopsy of Quentin Swicegood was performed by Dr. William R. Oliver of the Regional Forensic Center in Knox County at the request of District Attorney General on February 8, 2017. Dr. Oliver released the Final Autopsy Report on February 13, 2017. The autopsy confirmed initial reports from RPD and the TBI that the cause of Quentin Swicegood's death on February 7, 2017, was suicide accomplished by a single .410 gunshot to the head. Toxi-

cology evaluation is noted in the report as "pending" and as such is not available at this time. although the Medical Examiner notes alcohol bottles were found at the scene. The only injury noted in the autopsy report was a single small gauge shotgun contact wound which entered the right side of the head with no exit wound. The report specifically states: "No gunshot wound from any other kind of round was noted."

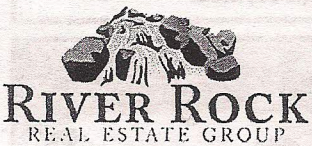
The investigation and autopsy confirm the report from RPD that Officer Thomas and Quentin Swicegood each only fired one shot. The entire encounter was captured on video and audio through the use of a body camera worn by Officer Thomas and the in-car video present in the RPD cruiser. The final autopsy confirms the reports of the RPD Officers on scene as well as the TBI investigation into the death, that this was indeed a suicide.

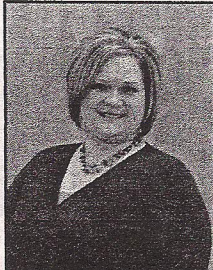
The District Attorney General by this report is advising Chief Bill Stinnett, Rockwood PD, that both Officers Thomas and Gray are cleared for return to regular duties, if not already on regular duty.

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